



BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1944

by

E. T. COLVILLE,

M.D., M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

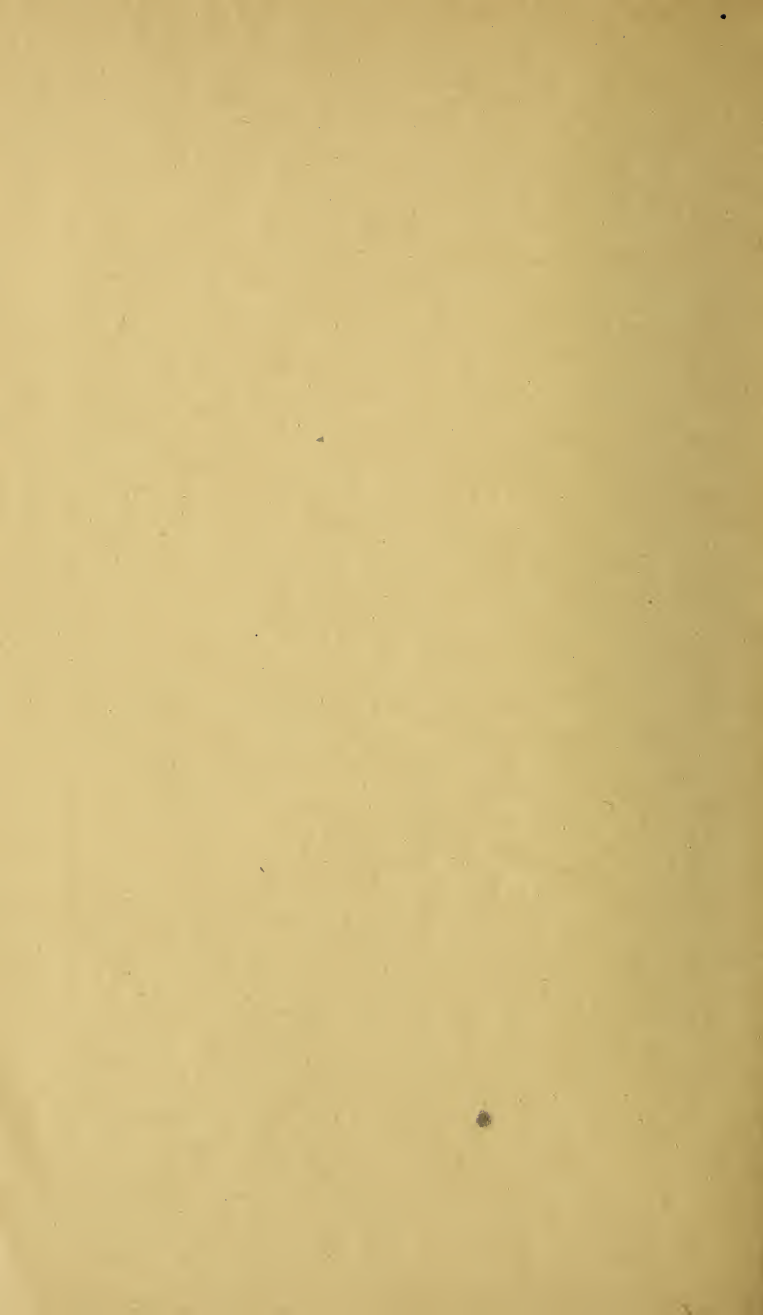
including

**ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**

by

F. W. O'HARA, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.





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Senior Sanitary Inspector.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Councillor H. R. MILNER.

Members :

THE MAYOR (Alderman J. Newby, J.P.)

(Deputy Chairman).

Councillor H. EYRE.

Councillor F. S. HUNTER.

Councillor A. E. MATTHEWMAN. Councillor R. MAW.

Councillor F. SPINK.

Councillor J. W. WILSON.

Health Sub-Committee :

THE MAYOR (Alderman J. Newby, J.P.).

Councillors R. MAW, H. R. MILNER and J. W. WILSON.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee :

Chairman :

Councillor F. S. HUNTER.

Members :

Mrs. A. EVERINGHAM.

Mrs. H. HARKER.

Mrs. E. LAMBERT.

(Deputy Chairman)

Mrs. L. FLIGG

and Members of the Health Committee.

Town Clerk :

GEORGE MELVIN.

Medical Officer of Health :

EDWARD T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S. (Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.

Borough Treasurer :

W. H. BODDINGTON, B. Com., F.I.M.T.A.

Borough Engineer

A. EVERINGHAM.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

F. W. O'HARA, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Health Visitors :

Miss E. SMITH, H.V.Cert., C.M.B., S.R.N.

Mrs. W. M. WILDE, H.V.Cert., C.M.B., S.R.N.

Matron — Sanatorium :

Miss D. K. LEACH, S.R.F.N.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Port Medical Officer,
Medical Superintendent of Maternity and Child Welfare and Isolation
Hospital :

* E. T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S. (Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.
(Resumed appointment from Active Service 1/6/1944).

Acting Medical Officer of Health, Port Medical Officer, Medical
Superintendent of Maternity and Child Welfare and Isolation Hospital :

P. D. H. CHAPMAN, M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.).
(Until 31/5/1944).

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Housing Inspector, Inspector under the Food and
Drugs Act :

F. W. O'HARA,
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector :
C. S. GRAHAM, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :
* K. O. BATTEN, Cert. S.I.B., Meat and other Food Certificates.

Clerks, Sanitary Department :
K. COUPLAND, T. H. MEREDITH, Miss O. ANDERSON.

Clerk, Health Department :
Miss P. GALLAGHER.

* Absent on Active Service.

Health Department,
Town Hall, Bridlington.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,
Borough of Bridlington.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services for the year 1944. First, may I record my thanks to Dr. P. D. H. Chapman for his services as Acting Medical Officer of Health for the Borough from the outbreak of war in September, 1939, to 31st May, 1944, on my return to duty from service with H.M. Forces.

The Borough during these years shows many scars from enemy air raid activity, the casualty figures of 27 killed would suggest that the town had been extremely fortunate when comparison is made with the amount of damage inflicted. The First Aid Services under the direction of Dr. A. E. Whitehead have worked efficiently and well and deserve great credit from us all.

The major problems affecting the progress of Public Health in this Borough have received the consideration of the Council and it is hoped that with the termination of hostilities in Europe an early start will be made towards their accomplishment.

1. **Sewerage System.**—The need for reconstruction of the existing system has long been recognised and the Council has now resolved to proceed with this work on approval by the Ministry of Health. The various works necessary are estimated to cost approximately £400,000 to complete.
2. **Housing.**—During the war years housing has necessarily been neglected. It is estimated that about 350 houses in the Borough are unfit for habitation under the standards of the Housing Acts and will have to be dealt with in slum clearance schemes.
- 3.—**Camping Sites.**—Firm action by the Council will be necessary to control these festering sores. At present rules governing the granting of licences seem to be only observed in their breach.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Members of the Committee for their valuable assistance and support, and have pleasure in recording my grateful thanks to every member of the staffs of the Health and other Departments for their co-operation and assistance.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. T. COLVILLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF HEALTH REPORT FOR 1944.

Borough	Borough of Bridlington
Area in Acres	5,703
Rateable Value	£206,172
Population :	
1931 Census (Corrected for non-residents)	19,417
1944 Registrar General	18,370
Density of Population per acre	3.2
Total Births	414
Birth-rate	22.5
Total Deaths	327
Death-rate	17.8
Comparability Factor to correct age and sex distribution in the Borough Census, 1931	Not available
Deaths of Infants under one year of age	21
(16 Legitimate, 5 Illegitimate)	
Infantile Mortality	50.7 per 1,000 births
Number of Illegitimate Births	52
Percentage of Total Births	12.6
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2
Cancer Death-rate	2.2 per 1,000 population
Phthisis Death-rate	0.7 per 1,000 population

General Statistics.

Borough	Borough of Bridlington
Area (acres)	5,703
Population (Census 1931) enumerated	19,705
Population (Census 1931) corrected	19,417
Population, 1944, Registrar General	18,370
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931)	4,776
Total number of Dwellings (Census 1931)	5,148
Number of Inhabited Houses (estimate 1944)	7,267
Rateable Value	£206,172
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£803

Social Conditions.

With the cessation of hostilities in Europe it is expected that there will be a speedy return to the normal conditions of a holiday and health resort.

Vital Statistics.

(a) Live births :

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	177	185	362
Illegitimate	30	22	52
			<hr/> 414 <hr/>

Proportion of males to females	equal
Birth-rate	22.5
Percentage of illegitimate births	12.6

The birth-rate of England and Wales was 17.6 per 1,000 population; our birth-rate is, therefore, 4.9 higher than that for the country generally.

(b) Deaths :

The total number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Borough was 327. This is equal to a death-rate of 17.8 per 1,000 compared with a rate of 11.6 for the country generally. This inequality is due to the difference in the age and sex distribution in the Borough from that of the country as a whole and also to the fact that during the war years, with no war industries in the town, residents in the earlier year groups, when not in the Services were drafted to the industrial regions.

Of the 327 deaths, the number over 65 years of age totalled 224, giving a percentage of 68.5.

(c) Infant Mortality Rate :

There were 21 deaths of children under one year of age, 16 legitimate and 5 illegitimate. The infantile mortality based upon the number of births registered in the same period, 414, is equivalent to a rate of 50.7 per 1,000 births, compared with a rate for the country of 46. Full particulars giving exact details of the causes of death and age distribution are given in Table II.

There were 12 still-births registered (legitimate 11, illegitimate 1), equivalent to a rate of .65 per 1,000 population compared with .50 for the country generally.

(d) Deaths from Zymotic Diseases :

The Zymotic death-rate is calculated from the seven principal zymotic diseases, Smallpox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever and Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years). The following were the deaths in this group :

Whooping Cough	2
Diarrhoea	2
	<hr/>
	4

This is equal to a rate of .2 per 1,000 population. —

(e) Among the other principal causes of death are the following :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	13
Pneumonia	12
Bronchitis	20
Cancer	40
Heart Disease	90

TABLE I.

Causes of Death in Bridlington M.B., 1944 (R.G.).

Causes of Death :	Males.	Females.
All Causes	146	181
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	1	1
5. Diphtheria	1	1
6. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	6	7
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	1
8. Syphilitic Disease	2	1
9. Influenza	—	1
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	—	—
12. Acute Inf. Encephalitis	1	1
13. Cancer of buc : cav : and Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	1	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	5
15. Cancer of Breast	—	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	12	13
17. Diabetes	1	2
18. Intracranial Vascularlesions	24	36
19. Heart Disease	47	43
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	4
21. Bronchitis	9	11
22. Pneumonia	5	7
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	—	3
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	2	3
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	2
26. Appendicitis	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	3
28. Nephritis	4	5
29. Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes	—	—
31. Premature Births	—	2
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injuries	4	1
33. Suicide	3	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents	—	1
35. Other violent causes	4	3
36. All other causes	13	15

TABLE II.—INFANTILE DEATHS, 1944

Causes of Death.									
	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles
Scarlet Fever
Whooping Cough	I	I	..	2
Diphtheria and Croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculosis Meningitis
Tuberculosis (Miliary)	I	I
Abdominal Tuberculosis
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)
Convulsions	2	..	..	..	2	I	..	..	3
Laryngitis
Bronchitis	I	..	I
Pneumonia (all forms)	I	I	2	I	I	5
Diarrhœa	I	I	I	..	..	2
Gastritis
Syphilis	I	..	..	I
Rickets
Suffocation, overlying
Injury at Birth
Atelectasis
Congenital Malformation	I	..	..	..	I	..	..	..	I
Premature Birth	3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	I	..	..	..	I	I	..	..	2
Grand Totals	7	..	..	2	9	7	2	2	I

TABLE III.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1944.

England and Wales, London, 122 Great Towns and 143 Smaller Towns.
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births :				
Live	17.6	20.3	20.9	15.0
Still	0.50	0.64	0.61	0.42
Deaths :				
All Causes	11.6	13.7	12.4	15.7
Typhoid and paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01
Influenza	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.08
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.01	0.01	1.01	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	46	52	44	61
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.8	7.3	4.4	10.1
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Notifications :				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	2.40	2.41	2.67	1.57
Whooping Cough	2.49	2.49	2.29	2.90
Diphtheria	0.58	0.67	0.69	0.31
Erysipelas	0.29	0.32	0.28	0.37
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	4.16	4.51	3.04	2.98
Pneumonia	0.97	1.13	0.82	0.93
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—				
(a) Notifications.				
Puerperal Fever	10.34	13.13	9.25	3.61
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.14
(b) Maternal Mortality — England and Wales :—				
No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis.	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis	No. 147 Puerperal Infections.	Nos. 142—6 —8 150	
0.31	0.09	0.28	1.25	
Abortion : Mortality per million women aged 15-45, England and Wales.				
No. 140 with Sepsis.		No. 141 without Sepsis.		
25		7		

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

Lloyd Hospital.

The following figures illustrate the general activities of the hospital:—

	1943.	1944.
Number of In-patients	721	767
X-Ray and Therapeutic Departments ...	1,702	1,917
Massage and Electrical Treatment	3,278	3,625

During the war years 82 air raid casualties were admitted to hospital and 91 attended the out-patients department. Sea casualties admitted totalled 9, and 11 attended the out-patients department.

Under the Emergency Medical Services, 279 cases were admitted to hospital and 1,639 attended the out-patients department.

The Avenue Hospital.

This hospital is under the administration of the Public Health Committee of the East Riding County Council.

There were 653 births at the hospital during the year.

Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority.

A.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL :

This is maintained by the Local Authority and cases are admitted from the Bridlington Rural District by agreement with that Authority, from the East Riding County Area if requested and by arrangement from the Services stationed in the area.

The total number of beds and cots available is 42. The following cases were admitted :

	Borough.	R.D.C.	E.R.C.C.	Services.	Total.
Erysipelas	2	—	—	1	3
Diphtheria	5	—	3	5	13
Scarlet Fever	32	5	9	2	48
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	3	—	—	2	5
T.B. Meningitis	1	—	—	—	1
Measles	—	2	—	3	5
German Measles	—	—	—	1	1
Mumps	1	—	—	10	11
Observation	7	—	2	8	17
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	1
Chickenpox	—	—	—	2	2
Scabies	52	10	—	—	62
Dysentery	1	—	—	9	10
	<hr/> 105	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 43	<hr/> 179

Four cases of Scarlet Fever were admitted from the Scarborough Rural District.

B.—SMALLPOX :

Provision is made with the East Riding County Council for the isolation of cases of smallpox at Shiptonthorpe Smallpox Hospital. During the year there were no cases of smallpox in the Area. Two contact cases notified from the disembarkation ports were kept under observation by the Health Department.

C.—TUBERCULOSIS :

The tuberculosis service is under the administration of the East Riding County Council. Tuberculosis clinics are held in the Borough on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. During the year the Register of Tuberculosis for the Borough has been reviewed and the returns are as follows :

	Males.		Females.		
	Non-	Non-	Non-	Non-	
	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Total.
Quarter ending					
31/12/43 ...	42	14	49	25	130
Quarter ending					
31/12/44 ...	28	2	25	7	62

D.—MATERNITY :

The East Riding County Council is the supervising authority for midwives. In the maternity block of the Avenue Hospital 653 babies were delivered during the year. Ante-natal clinics are held weekly at this hospital, and it is considered that the opening of an additional clinic by the Borough Council would result in unnecessary duplication.

E.—CHILDREN :

By arrangement, children with crippling defects are admitted for treatment to the Yorkshire Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoorside ; cases are also referred to Special Clinics at Scarborough and Driffield.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For infectious cases :

A motor-ambulance adapted for infectious cases is kept at the Sanatorium.

(b) For non-infectious and accident :

A motor-ambulance is provided by the Corporation and is available free of cost within a radius of 20 miles of the Borough.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is established at the Oxford Street School Clinic and sessions are held weekly on Monday and Thursday afternoons. In addition, the School Clinics are open daily for the treatment of minor ailments, dental defects and visual defects in children of pre-school age.

Provision is also made for the hospital treatment of tonsils and adenoids and for diagnostic X-ray examination when required by the Medical Officer of Health.

I take this opportunity of thanking the voluntary workers for their most valuable help at the Clinic during the year.

Health Visitor's Report.

The report of the Health Visitor on the work done during the year, summarised is as follows :

Number of first visits to infants under 1 year ...	415
Number of re-visits under 1 year	1,330
Number of re-visits from 1 to 5 years	3,301
Number of visits to expectant mothers	286
Number of visits to foster-children	109

The following is a review of the work done during the year at the Welfare Centre :

Attendances during the year :

By infants under 1 year	4,143
By children, 1 to 5 years	1,751

Consultations with the Medical Officer of Health :

Infants and children	1,046
Expectant mothers	28
Post-natal consultations	31

Average sessional attendances :

All children	59
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Total number who attended at the Centre during the year :

Infants under 1 year	614
Children, 1 to 5 years	549

Milk Foods :

During the year dried milk and other specialities were sold in the Welfare Centre at cost price. Owing to the improved financial circumstances and absence of unemployment in the district necessitous cases requiring free supplies have been extremely few.

Care of Premature Infants and Illegitimate Children :

Extra supervision has been concentrated on the above by the Health Visitors ; a more detailed report will be submitted later.

Part I of the Children's Act, 1908.

The number of fosterparents on the register at the beginning of the year was 11, and at the end of the year, 11. No proceedings were taken during the year.

Nursing Homes.

There are three Nursing Homes in the Area ; all have been visited by the Medical Officer of Health and found satisfactory.

School Clinics.

These are held daily at the Oxford Street Clinic ; the School Medical Officer, who is also Medical Officer of Health, attends at three sessions weekly ; special ophthalmic sessions are held when necessary. Dental sessions are held thrice weekly, Mr. J. A. Stout, the School Dental Officer, in attendance. Children under five years of age can attend these clinics.

The above clinics are provided by the Bridlington Borough Education Committee.

Promotion of Cleanliness and Good Habits and the Elimination of Verminous Conditions.

This has always received the attention of the Health Visitors who on routine visits give advice and instructions when necessary. All cases of continual uncleanness and verminous conditions are reported and the houses visited by the Medical Officer of Health and Senior Sanitary Inspector ; there is also regular co-operation with the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector. Lethane oil is provided free of cost to necessitous cases and special combs are issued on loan from the Clinic when required. The Cleansing Centre at the Infectious Diseases Hospital is also available for cases requiring additional treatment. Sixty-two cases of scabies were referred to this Cleansing Centre during the year. The problem is not an outstanding one in this Borough.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The half-yearly Returns for Diphtheria Prophylaxis sent to the Ministry of Health for the periods ending 30th June, 1944, and 31st December, 1944, totalled as follows :

	5 years.	5-15 years.	Total.
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January, 1944, and 31st December, 1944	139	78	217

These figures show that of the population of the Area under fifteen years of age, 53% of those under five, and 70% of those between five and fifteen years, had completed the full course of immunisation.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water :

All waterworks are the property of the Corporation and the daily supply to the Borough and Rural District now exceeds 1½ million gallons per day.

There were 22 complete water examinations and 19 additional for B. Coli only during the year ; all showed complete freedom from pollution.

It was noted that wide variations occurred in the free chlorine content and arrangements are in hand for the replacement of the chlorinator at the Mill Lane Pumping Station by a more efficient type.

Water Gathering Grounds :

Three prisoner-of-war camps are sited in the water gathering grounds and disposal of excreta is by surface spreading on the land, it being considered by the Military Authorities that this is the only practical method of disposal at the present time.

Owing to the sparse top soil and the dangers of fissures in the chalk it is considered that this constitutes a potential source of pollution to the water supply of this Borough and consequently weekly analysis of water samples is being carried out while the three camps are in occupation.

During the time this land was being essentially used as a tank training ground in previous years, the policy of the War Office could be understood, but it is considered that alternative sites for prisoner-of-war camps could have been found.

Minor extensions to the water mains in the Rural Area have been carried out during the year. With very few exceptions all houses in the Borough are supplied direct from the public water mains.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The only houses not connected with the public sewers are isolated farms in the outlying districts.

A Public Inquiry into the proposed new Sewerage Scheme for the Borough was held on 3rd July, 1945.

Closet Accommodation.

There are still a few pail closets connected with small cottages in the Borough.

Housing.

It is estimated that approximately 350-400 houses in the Borough are unfit for habitation under the standard of the Housing Acts.

Camping.

With the return to normal peace conditions, camping will again become a serious problem in this Borough.

At present the camping sites are far from satisfactory and no attention appears to have been paid to the conditions attached to the licences granted by the Corporation. It is considered that firm action should be taken by the Corporation so that the minimum, at least, of sanitary and public health measures are insisted upon.

Infectious Diseases.

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year :

Scarlet Fever	40
Ophthalmia Neonotorum	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	5
Pneumonia	42
Dysentery	71
Whooping Cough	67
Tuberculosis	31
Measles	11
Malaria	3
Diphtheria	7
Erysipelas	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever	3

Bacteriological Examination of Specimens.

During the year the following specimens have been submitted for bacteriological examination :

Medical Officer of Health :

	Positive.	Negative.
Diphtheria	12	33
Pleural Fluid :		
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—
Knee-joint Fluid	—	1
Widal	—	1
Blood Culture	—	1
C.S. Fluid :		
Meningitis	2	—
Pus	10	—
Ringworm	1	—

Medical Practitioners :

Diphtheria	3	86	
Tuberculosis :			
Sputum	8	42	
Pleural Fluid	—	4	
Animal Inoculations	—	2	urine
Urine	1	4	
Urine :			
B. Coli	23	74	
Faeces	—	15	
Dysentery	3	8	
Widal	—	14	
Blood Culture	—	5	
Haemolytic Streptococci :			
Throat Swabs	25	73	
Vaginal Swabs	10	17	
Gonococcus Swabs	1	21	
Cerebro-spinal Fluid —			
Meningitis ...	—	4	

Services :

Diphtheria	—	16	
Tuberculosis	—	24	
Dysentery	130	180	
Widal	—	1	

County Tuberculosis Medical Officer :

Sputum	7	13	
--------------	---	----	--

General :

Blood Films	2	—	
Blood Counts	4	—	
Blood Urea	3	—	
Blood Sugar	2	—	
Pathological Specimens	2	—	

BOROUGH OF BRIDLINGTON

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

Health Department,
Town Hall,
Bridlington.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Bridlington.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1944, which is again an interim one. The usual statistics and records will be preserved for consideration at a later date.

No important change has taken place in my Department during the year.

One would like to see more attention given to the repair of houses, if they are not to fall into the category of unfit houses, but with the shortage of staff, coupled with the shortage of available material and labour for repair work, only urgent works of repair have been carried out to working-class houses.

Inspections.

During the year the total number of inspections and visits for all purposes amounted to 6,871.

Of these, 3,701 were made in connection with general sanitation, and 1,269 were made in connection with the Public Health and Housing Acts.

In addition, 992 visits were made in connection with meat and food inspection and the Food and Drugs Act.

Notices Served.

Eleven Statutory Notices and 247 Preliminary Notices were served during the year in addition to 25 Verbal Notices, and a large number of letters sent to Owners, Agents and Occupiers requesting them to carry out sanitary improvements and to abate various types of nuisances.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number of water closets in the Borough	9,650
Total number of dustbins in the Borough	8,169
Total number of dwellinghouses with earth closets in the Borough	168
Total number of dwellinghouses in the Borough	7,298

Housing.

No houses were erected during the year either by private enterprise or by the Corporation.

There is a shortage, as in other places, of houses for the working classes, and the unfit houses are getting no better with age.

Inspection of Houses during the Year.

During the year 699 houses were inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

There are 59 cowsheds in the Borough.

No. of cowkeepers registered as wholesalers	18
No. of cowkeepers registered as wholesale and retail sellers	4
No. of cowkeepers registered to sell milk by retail only ...	17
No. of registered milk sellers (other than cowkeepers) ...	34
No. of registered milk sellers residing outside the Borough...	1

Application for Registration.

	Number of Applications.	Granted.	Refused.
Cowkeepers	2	2	—
Dairies, Milkshops, etc. ...	1	1	—
Dairymen	1	1	—

Visits and Inspections.

Visits to cowsheds, milkshops and dairies	147
Number of defects found	3
Number of defects remedied	3

Milk Supply.

143 samples of milk have been submitted to the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough, for Bacteriological and Biological Examination. 56 samples contained B. Coli in varying degrees.

Of 93 samples from Producers and Producer/Retailers in the Borough, 35 contained B. Coli.

12 samples were taken from supplies coming into the Borough, and 7 of these contained B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes.

Milk in Schools Scheme.

4 samples of milk were taken from Secondary Schools as a result of a complaint of sickness ; 1 sample contained B. Coli, 1 failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, and 2 failed to satisfy the Phosphatase Test.

19 samples of milk were taken from Elementary Schools ; 14 contained B. Coli in varying degrees, and 1 failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test.

As a result of these unsatisfactory reports arrangements have now been made to supply all schools in the Borough, except the Bridlington High School for Girls, with Heat Treated milk from one dairy which possesses a Pasteuriser's Licence in accordance with the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1941.

Water Supply.

4 samples of water were submitted for full Bacteriological examination, and 15 samples for B. Coli examination. All were obtained from the public supply and found to be satisfactory.

Meat and Other Foods.

There are 15 slaughterhouses in the Borough. At the present time there is only one in operation, namely, the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse in Rhodena Avenue.

404 visits were made to the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse, and the carcasses and organs of 20 Bulls, 226 Cows, 711 Bullocks, 151 Heifers, 192 Calves, 10,608 Sheep and 131 Pigs have been examined.

The weight of food condemned during the year was as follows :

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Whole Carcases	3	0	1	4
Carcasses of which part or organ was condemned	8	2	3	15
Other Foods	—	18	2	18½

In addition, 345 tins of various foods were condemned.

20 visits were made to Market Stalls ; the food exposed for sale was of good quality.

55 visits were made to Butchers' Shops and Food Preparing Premises.

35 visits were made to Restaurants.

28 visits were made to Wet Fish Shops.

15 visits were made to Fried Fish Shops.

30 visits were made to Grocers' Shops.

Offensive Trades.

There is one Knackers Yard in the Borough, to which 5 visits have been made.

Factories Act, 1937.

90 visits (including visits to bakehouses) have been made. 6 defects have been remedied in accordance with the provisions of the Factories Act.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Infestation Order, 1943.

As explained in my last report, the powers of the County Council have been delegated to the Borough.

Two agreements with private owners and one in connection with the London & North Eastern Railway Company have been entered into, whereby for a fixed sum each year the Corporation agree to treat and keep free from rats their premises. An agreement was also entered into with the Military Authorities stationed in the Borough whereby their premises were also treated for the eradication of rats.

A manual member of my Department who attended the Ministry of Food Course has been appointed part-time Rat Catcher for the Borough.

The work of rat destruction has been pursued energetically during the year, as evidenced by the fact that 1,705 visits to premises were made.

The Gypsy Race, a watercourse running through this Borough, has been systematically treated for the entire length within the Borough boundary, and the estimated number of rats killed was 537. Ministry of Food Officials inspected the work during its progress, and that Department made a contribution towards the cost. In addition, the whole of the sewers in the Borough have been pre-baited and post-baited with an estimated kill from bait eaten of 846 rats.

Shops Act, 1934.

11 visits were made to shops.

Infectious Disease.

37 visits were made in connection with notifiable infectious disease.

75 disinfections have been carried out for all causes, including infectious disease.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Bed bugs do not present a problem in this Borough ; no complaints or infestations of any kind have been found during the year.

3 disinfestations have been found necessary in the case of fleas.

Air Raid Shelters.

Cleansing and disinfection of air raid shelters has been carried out regularly by an employee of the Cleansing Department. It has been found necessary to attend to certain shelters on Sundays, but apart from one or two instances our air raid shelters have not been misused and the damage has been negligible.

Public Cleansing and Salvage.

The figures for this section of the report are for the financial year 1943/44, which show that 2,040 loads of house refuse and 312 loads of trade refuse were collected, and the total weight of refuse (100% trade and 50% house refuse test weighings) was 6,051 tons.

677 tons 16 cwts. 1 qr. of salvageable materials were collected and disposed of during the year; 251 tons 11 cwts. consisted of waste paper.

Salvageable materials as a whole show an increase of 14 tons 8 cwts. as compared with 1942/43. Waste paper salvaged decreased by 12 tons 19 cwts 1 qr.

A large amount of military refuse was disposed of at the Corporation tip.

Again it was not possible to maintain a weekly collection of refuse over the whole Borough owing to the shortage and age of the labour employed and the high proportion of garden rubbish to be collected. I have given service where it is most needed, namely, the congested and boarding house areas of the Borough; other parts on the outskirts have had a fortnightly collection for refuse and a weekly collection for salvage.

If everyone who could would play their part in disposing of their garden rubbish by burning or making a compost heap, instead of filling the bins with this type of refuse, then I would endeavour to give a collection once a week, but as this state of affairs does not exist I shall, in the interests of public health, give the more frequent service where it is most needed.

I also think that very little assistance has been given by the respective Government Departments towards the finding of necessary labour for the Cleansing Service. To-day my service is left with a considerable proportion of middle-aged and old men, and I am proud to say they have done a good job of work during the war, both in respect of refuse and salvage, but it is time they had a rest and some younger men were infused into the Cleansing Service.

All the refuse has been tipped at Fond Brigg Lane tip in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. The tip compares favourably with any other in the County, and according to Ministry of Food officials who inspected the site for rats, is the best-controlled tip in this area.

A crop of oats was grown with very good results on land which had been filled in with refuse.

The ground will afterwards be seeded down and the turf will be used to cover the sides of the next layer of refuse.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and my Staff for the help and support they have given me during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. O'HARA.

Coates & Hall, Marshall Avenue, Bridlington.

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